

Roger Williams University
DOCS@RWU

Marine Affairs Institute Conferences, Lectures, and
Events

Marine Affairs Institute

11-4-2016

Legal and Policy Approaches to Reduce Marine Debris in New England

Roger Williams University School of Law

Follow this and additional works at: http://docs.rwu.edu/law_ma_conf



Part of the [Environmental Law Commons](#), and the [Natural Resources Law Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Roger Williams University School of Law, "Legal and Policy Approaches to Reduce Marine Debris in New England" (2016). *Marine Affairs Institute Conferences, Lectures, and Events*. Paper 8.
http://docs.rwu.edu/law_ma_conf/8

This Conference Proceeding is brought to you for free and open access by the Marine Affairs Institute at DOCS@RWU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Marine Affairs Institute Conferences, Lectures, and Events by an authorized administrator of DOCS@RWU. For more information, please contact mwu@rwu.edu.

Marine Law Symposium

Date:

Fri, 11/04/2016 - 8:30am

Location:

RWU School of Law, Bristol, RI



Legal and Policy Approaches to Reduce Marine Debris in New England

Marine debris poses a serious threat to New England's coastline. Every year, derelict fishing gear, plastic bottles, plastic bags, cigarettes, abandoned vessels, and other debris washes ashore in New England.

This debris causes negative social, environmental, and economic impacts, such as decreased aesthetic value, harm to coastal ecosystem health, and damage to vessels and gear. These challenges create complex management problems for coastal managers and attorneys, who work to mitigate the creation of new debris and remove and manage debris that washes ashore.

This Symposium will discuss the adequacy of U.S. law and policy to prevent the creation of new marine debris and to remove debris once it is created. The first session will include keynote presentations on the science, law, and policy of marine debris. Speakers will then examine case studies from coastal New England states to consider how each state identified a marine debris problem, took steps to address it, and how the approach could serve as a model elsewhere. Finally, a panel of attorneys will lead a facilitated discussion to identify effective legal and policy strategies to prevent and manage marine debris in New England and to frame questions for future research.

[FINAL AGENDA](#)

[SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES](#)

REGISTRATION FOR THE PUBLIC

FACULTY/STUDENT REGISTRATION

A Symposium dinner will be held on Thursday, November 3 at the Law School. A reception will begin at 5:30 PM with dinner to follow at 6:00 PM. Dinner tickets are \$50 a person; student cost is \$25 a person. Registration for the dinner is included in the "Registration to the Public" link above.

Refunds for the Symposium or Symposium Dinner will be accepted in writing to lawevents@rwu.edu on or before Friday, October 28, 2016.

CLE Credits

This program has been approved for six (6) Rhode Island MCLE credits with zero legal ethics credits.

Directions

Signs for "Law School Event" will direct you to parking.

GPS Address: 10 Metacom Avenue, Bristol, RI

Planning Committee:

Michelle Carnevale, *Program Associate, 11th Hour Racing*

Terra Bowling, *Senior Research Counsel, National Sea Grant Law Center*

Casey Charkowick, Esq. '16, *Staff Attorney, Textron, Inc.*

Monica Allard Cox, *Communications Director, Rhode Island Sea Grant*

Michael Daly, Esq., *Partner, Pierce Atwood*

Dennis H. Esposito, Esq., *Director, RWU Law Environmental and Land Use Clinical Externship Program and Adjunct Professor, Marine Affairs Institute*

Charlotte M. Ferris, *Program Coordinator, Marine Affairs Institute*

Jonathan Gutoff, *Professor of Law, RWU Law*

Brett Hargaden, *Editor-in-Chief, RWU Law Review, Class of 2017*

Jennifer McCann, *Director, US Coastal Programs, URI Coastal Resources Center at University of Rhode Island/Rhode Island Sea Grant Extension*

Christopher McNally, Esq. '13, *Sayer Regan & Thayer, LLP; of Counsel, Clagett Memorial Regatta; Assistant Solicitor, Middletown, Rhode Island*

Dennis Nixon, *Director, Rhode Island Sea Grant, and Professor, University of Rhode Island*

Patrick O'Connor, Esq. '15, *Associate Attorney, Hill, Betts & Nash LLP*

Read D. Porter, *Staff Attorney, Marine Affairs Institute/Rhode Island Sea Grant Legal Program*

Julia Wyman, *Director, Marine Affairs Institute/Rhode Island Sea Grant Legal Program*

Student Representatives:

Austyn Carolin, *RWU Law, Class of 2017*

Casey Tremper, *University of Rhode Island*

Please contact marineaffairs@rwu.edu or 401-254-5392 with any questions regarding this event.



10th Marine Law Symposium
Friday, November 4, 2016

Legal and Policy Approaches to Reduce Marine Debris in New England

Marine Affairs Institute
Roger Williams University School of Law, Bristol, Rhode Island

To reduce waste from this meeting, additional materials, including speaker biographies, are available online at <http://law.rwu.edu/event/marine-law-symposium>.
Wi-Fi Access: Select “RWU Conferences” and enter “conferences2015” when prompted.

Marine debris poses a serious threat to New England’s coastline. Every year, derelict fishing gear, plastic bottles, plastic bags, cigarettes, abandoned vessels, and other debris washes ashore in New England. This debris causes negative social, environmental, and economic impacts, such as decreased aesthetic value, harm to coastal ecosystem health, and damage to vessels and gear. These challenges create complex management problems for coastal managers and attorneys, who work to mitigate the creation of new debris and remove and manage debris that washes ashore.

This Symposium will discuss the adequacy of U.S. law and policy to prevent the creation of new marine debris and to remove debris once it is created. The first session will include keynote presentations on the science, law, and policy of marine debris. Speakers will then examine case studies from coastal New England states to consider how each state identified a marine debris problem, took steps to address it, and how the approach could serve as a model elsewhere. Finally, a panel of attorneys will lead a facilitated discussion to identify effective legal and policy strategies to prevent and manage marine debris in New England and to frame questions for future research.

8:30 AM Registration and Refreshments

9:00 AM Welcome Remarks

Julia Wyman

Director, Marine Affairs Institute, Roger Williams University School of Law/Rhode Island
Sea Grant Legal Program

Michael Yelnosky

Dean, Roger Williams University School of Law

Donald Farish

President, Roger Williams University

9:30-10:00 AM Keynote Address
Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)



10:00-10:30 AM	<p>Keynote Address</p> <p>Dr. Sandra Whitehouse Senior Policy Advisor, Ocean Conservancy <i>Science Behind Marine Debris: An International and National Perspective</i></p>
10:30-11:00 AM	Morning Refreshments
11:00-11:30 AM	<p>Dr. Keith Cialino Northeast Regional Coordinator, NOAA Marine Debris Program <i>NOAA Marine Debris Program in the Northeast</i></p> <p>Dr. Cialino will provide an overview of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Marine Debris Program's work in the region, providing insight to federal policies that directly respond to marine debris. He will highlight the debris issues that are prevalent in the Northeast, the impacts of storms (e.g. Superstorm Sandy), and ongoing marine debris reduction planning efforts in the Gulf of Maine. Results from NOAA-funded projects in the region will also be shared.</p>
11:30-12:00 PM	<p>Jonathan Stone Executive Director, Save The Bay <i>Focus on the State: How Marine Debris is Affecting Rhode Island and Rhode Island's Response</i></p> <p>Mr. Stone will discuss the impacts that Rhode Island is observing related to marine debris.</p>
12:00-1:00 PM	<p>Carleen Lyden-Kluss Co-Founder & Executive Director, North American Marine Environment Protection Association (NAMEPA)</p> <p>Maggie Carey Regulatory and Government Affairs Director, NAMEPA</p> <p><i>Current Legal Status of Marine Debris Threats</i></p> <p>Ms. Lyden-Kluss and Ms. Carey will present the adequacy of U.S. law to handle marine debris, and the role of the private sector, including the shipping industry, in reducing the disposal of harmful debris into the marine environment. They are presenting a paper co-authored by Joan Bondareff, Of Counsel, Blank Rome LLP.</p>
1:00-2:00 PM	Lunch
2:00-4:00 PM	<p>Panel: Case Studies <i>How New England States are Struggling with Marine Debris and Developing Effective Reduction/Management Strategies</i></p> <p>Moderator: Read Porter Staff Attorney, Marine Affairs Institute, Roger Williams University School of Law/Rhode Island Sea Grant Legal Program</p>



Panelists:

New Hampshire

Cheri Patterson

Supervisor of Marine Programs, New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

New Hampshire Memorandum of Agreement to Allow Derelict Fishing Gear Removal

In New Hampshire, state law makes it unlawful for anyone other than New Hampshire Fish and Game Department (NHFGD) conservation officers or the lobster gear owner to touch lobster gear. To expand the authority to remove derelict fishing gear beyond NHFGD conservation officers and gear owners, the NHFGD has signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development (NHDRED). Ms. Patterson will discuss how this MOA was created and how its model could be used throughout New England.

Rhode Island

Gary Powers

Deputy Legal Counsel, Department of Environmental Management; Legal Counsel, Derelict and Abandoned Vessel and Obstruction Removal Commission

Derelict and Abandoned Vessel and Obstruction Removal Commission

Mr. Powers will discuss the Derelict and Abandoned Vessel and Obstruction Removal Commission which was established by the Rhode Island General Assembly in 2012 pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 46-6-10.1 - 46-6-10.4 in order to reimburse public authorities for the cost of the removal and disposal of derelict and abandoned vessels and marine obstructions. Mr. Powers serves as the Legal Counsel to the Commission.

Massachusetts

Brock Callen

Executive Director, Sail Martha's Vineyard

Zero Waste Event Management Model

Mr. Callen will discuss how Sail Martha's Vineyard has developed and executed a ZERO waste event management strategy both on behalf of itself and with other Island based non-profits. Furthermore, he will lay out and discuss the potential barriers to Sail Martha's Vineyard's performance-driven strategy to achieve its end goal; getting each of the six towns on the Vineyard to adopt local ordinances requiring the ZERO waste initiative for all public events with fifty or more attendees. Once adopted, these ordinances could serve as a model for other New England towns.

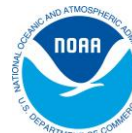
Rhode Island

Dave McLaughlin

Executive Director & Co-Founder, Clean Ocean Access

Marine Debris Technology Aiding Regulatory Change

When stormwater runoff enters Newport harbor, it contains pollutants and debris that impair water quality and degrade the aquatic habitat. Clean Ocean Access, with a grant from 11th Hour Racing, has installed and is now maintaining Trash Skimmers in Perrotti Park, Newport. The goal of the project is to reduce the amount of marine debris in the Newport harbor, increase the recreational value of the waterfront, bring awareness to



the types of re-accumulating debris, and promote environmental stewardship. Mr. McLaughlin will speak on the project design and implementation, how current results combined with coastal cleanups are redefining the framework of marine debris including potential regulatory changes, and how other communities can get involved with installing similar solutions.

Connecticut

Dr. Katharine Owens

Associate Professor and Director, Environmental Studies Program, University of Hartford
From Shore to State House

Dr. Owens will discuss her NOAA-funded grant project to introduce college students to the issues of marine debris, guiding them in the process of collecting and tracing the life cycle of debris, and then challenging them to use this data to contextualize policy alternatives and present them to their state legislators. This project used experiential environmental education at the University of Hartford to perform outreach, improve knowledge, inform policy, and realize change on the issue of marine debris. Dr. Owens will provide perspective on legislative change and education.

4:00-4:10 PM

Break

4:10-5:10 PM

Panel: Next Steps

What are Some Effective Strategies for Managing Marine Debris?

A panel of experts will discuss future legal and policy changes to create reduced marine debris.

Moderator:

Dennis Nixon

Director, Rhode Island Sea Grant, Professor, University of Rhode Island

Panelists:

Kevin Cute

Marine Resources Specialist, R.I. Coastal Resources Management Council

Erin J. Bryant

Assistant Professor of Ocean and Coastal Policy, Sea Education Association

James Rhodes

Program Director, UPSTREAM Policy Institute

Mike Roylos

Founder, UrbanCare, LLC

5:10-5:15 PM

Concluding Remarks

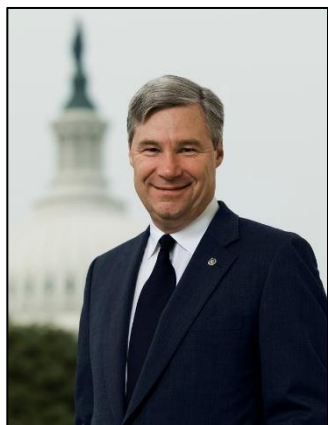




10th Marine Law Symposium
Friday, November 4, 2016

Legal and Policy Approaches to Reduce Marine Debris in New England

Marine Affairs Institute
Roger Williams University School of Law, Bristol, Rhode Island



Senator Sheldon Whitehouse
Rhode Island

Sheldon Whitehouse, a member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee (EPW), plays a key role in crafting policies addressing environmental protection and climate change. In 2011, he joined with Democrats and Republicans to form the Senate Oceans Caucus to increase awareness of and find common ground on issues facing the oceans and coasts. The Caucus helped gain Senate approval of four international fisheries treaties and passage of the IUU Fishing Enforcement Act that will prevent illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing. Whitehouse has worked to boost federal support for fisheries science and cooperative fisheries research as well as efforts to improve transparency and efficiency in the commercial and recreational fisheries management process.

Senator Whitehouse has long advocated for a dedicated fund to support ocean and coastal research, restoration, and conservation. In 2015, the National Oceans and Coastal Security Fund was created to provide grants that support work for the oceans, coasts, and Great Lakes. He also led the successful bipartisan effort to reauthorize the Environmental Protection Agency's National Estuaries Program to protect and study coastal habitats.

A graduate of Yale University and the University of Virginia School of Law, Whitehouse served as United States Attorney and Attorney General of Rhode Island before being elected to the Senate in 2006. In addition to EPW, he is a member of the Budget Committee; the Judiciary Committee; the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee; and the Special Committee on Aging.

He and his wife Sandra, a marine biologist and environmental advocate, live in Newport. They have two children.

For the latest updates on Sheldon's work, follow @SenWhitehouse on Twitter and visit facebook.com/SenatorWhitehouse.





Dr. Sandra Whitehouse

Senior Policy Advisor

Ocean Conservancy

Dr. Sandra Whitehouse is a consultant who has served for over twenty years as an ocean policy advisor to multiple organizations and institutions, using her marine science expertise to advise clients on a variety of issues including how to advance ocean health and sustainably develop coastal and offshore projects. Her clients have included Environmental Non-Governmental Organizations and other Nonprofit Organizations, a state agency, legislative body and private companies. She has served on the boards of Save The Bay, the Nature Conservancy's Rhode Island chapter, the Metcalf Institute for Marine and

Environmental Reporting, The Aquidneck Island Land Trust, Grow Smart Rhode Island and The Consortium for Ocean Leadership and presently sits on The Advisory Board for the Graduate School of Oceanography at the University of Rhode Island, and The National Center for Science Education. Dr. Whitehouse holds a B.S. from Yale University and a Ph.D. in biological oceanography from the Graduate School of Oceanography at the University of Rhode Island.



Dr. Keith Cialino

Northeast Regional Coordinator

NOAA Marine Debris Program

Dr. Keith Cialino is the Northeast Regional Coordinator for the NOAA Marine Debris Program, based in Gloucester, Massachusetts. He is an environmental scientist with expertise in water quality sampling and analysis, field work, policy integration, and science communication. Prior to joining the Marine Debris Program, Dr. Cialino served as a project consultant for development of a Waterfront Protection Plan for Southampton, NY, was the Outreach Coordinator for the Massachusetts component of the International Coastal

Cleanup, and was a Knauss Marine Policy Fellow with NOAA's Fisheries Service, focused on policy development related to international tuna fisheries management. Additionally, he taught science at three Boston Public schools as a Graduate Teaching Fellow and serves on the Recycling Advisory Committee for the City of Cambridge (MA). Dr. Cialino has a B.A. in Environmental Science from La Salle University in Philadelphia, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Environmental Science from the University of Massachusetts Boston.





Jonathan Stone

Executive Director

Save The Bay-Narragansett Bay

Jonathan Stone grew up in suburban Boston, spending his summers on Buzzards Bay, where his passion for the water and nature was born. He moved to Rhode Island in 1976 to attend Brown University, went on to earn an MBA at Harvard University, and launched a career in manufacturing, in both Seattle and Boston. But his love for the ocean brought him to back home to Rhode Island in 1989, when he promptly joined Save The Bay as a member and swimmer.

For most of the next 19 years, alongside a very successful career in financial services, Mr. Stone fished, kayaked and swam in Narragansett Bay as often as he could, and became an active Save The Bay member. In early 2008, he retired from the investment business, and in 2009, took up the mantle as Save The Bay's fourth Executive Director, fulfilling a personal mission to dedicate his time and experience to protecting and restoring Narragansett Bay.

Under Mr. Stone's leadership, Save The Bay has championed the passage of Rhode Island's cesspool phase-out law and the first major expansion of the wetlands protection act in more than 40 years. He launched a South County Coastkeeper program at Save The Bay, embarking on a long-term study of water quality in the Pawcatuck River and Little Narragansett Bay and initiating a bi-state call to action to protect these important bodies of water on the RI/CT border. Also on his watch, the organization successfully brought an end to blatant pollution of the Providence River by a local scrapyard, sounded the alarm about a proposal to fill 31 acres of the Providence River, and launched a Riverkeeper program to promote watershed health in the upper watershed. Today, Save The Bay is advocating for a stronger investment in the state's capacity and commitment to enforce environmental laws.

Mr. Stone's personal passion for the outdoors, fisheries, issues of public access to the Bay, and environmental protections form a powerful foundation that has inspired thousands Save The Bay's staff, members, donors and partner to share his vision for lasting improvements to Narragansett Bay.



Carleen Lyden-Kluss

Co-Founder, Executive Director

North American Marine Environment Protection Association

Carleen Lyden-Kluss is the Co-Founder and Executive Director of NAMEPA (North American Marine Environment Protection Association) leveraging off her experience as a marketing and communications professional in the commercial maritime industry with over 39 years of experience. She specializes in identifying, developing and implementing strategic marketing and communications programs that increase the visibility and effectiveness of NAMEPA as well as the development of educational resources promoting

marine environment protection. She works to develop strategic alliances between industry, regulators, conservation groups and educators to "Save the Seas".

In 2015, Ms. Lyden-Kluss was appointed an Ambassador by the International Maritime Organization (IMO). She is a member of WISTA (Women's International Shipping and Trading Association) where she serves as Press Officer for the International organization, the Connecticut Maritime Association, the Marine Society of the City of New



York, INTERTANKO, The National Press Club, WIMAC (Women in Maritime Association, Caribbean) and is a Past-President of the Propeller Club Chapter of the Port of NY/NJ, as well as a Trustee of Sea Research Foundation. She was also elected to the Board of Trustees of the Coast Guard Foundation and the Coast Guard Auxiliary Foundation.

Ms. Lyden-Kluss is also Chief Executive Officer of Morgan Marketing & Communications, the Executive Director of NYMAR (New York Maritime, Inc.) and the Co-Founder/Executive Director of the Merchant Marine Policy Coalition and the Consortium for International Maritime Heritage. In 2010, she was awarded the Certificate of Merit by the United States Coast Guard and in 2014 a Public Service Commendation for her work on World Maritime Day and AMVER791, respectively. Ms. Lyden-Kluss graduated from Wellesley College with a BA in Political Science and History (minor in Economics) and studied Accounting at Cornell School of Business Administration, and is a trained facilitator and media trainer. She held a USCG Captain's license.



Maggie Carey

Regulatory and Government Affairs Director
North American Marine Environment Protection Association

Maggie Carey, Regulatory and Government Affairs Director at NAMEPA, is an attorney with a background in maritime law and environmental policy. An avid scuba diver, she has a strong passion for ocean conservation. Ms. Carey grew up in South Florida and attended the University of Miami while working on a charter dive boat. She is a graduate of American University, Washington College of Law and spent a year studying maritime law at Tulane University

School of Law. Prior to NAMEPA, Ms. Carey worked for the Pew Charitable Trusts on their project to end illegal fishing, globally campaigning for solutions to help end a very serious threat facing our oceans.



Read Porter

Staff Attorney
Marine Affairs Institute and Rhode Island Sea Grant Legal Program
Roger Williams University School of Law

Read Porter is staff attorney with the Marine Affairs Institute (MAI) at Roger Williams University School of Law/Rhode Island Sea Grant Legal Program. Prior to joining the Institute in 2016, Mr. Porter was a senior attorney and directed the Invasive Species Program at the Environmental Law Institute, a non-profit environmental policy research and education organization based in Washington, DC. He also served as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable Julia

Smith Gibbons on the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in Memphis, Tennessee. Mr. Porter has extensive experience in a wide range of ocean and coastal law and policy topics, including fisheries and aquaculture, compliance and enforcement, marine protected areas, offshore energy, invasive species, and other topics. Read earned a J.D. from Harvard Law School, where he was editor in chief of the *Harvard Environmental Law Review*, and a B.A. in Geology from Amherst College.





Cheri Patterson

Supervisor of Marine Programs
New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

Cheri Patterson has been working for the NH Fish and Game Department in the Marine Fisheries Division for 39 years. During these years she has worked in the capacity of marine biologist and currently as Supervisor of Marine Programs. During her tenure she has been responsible for assisting and managing in a variety of marine and diadromous fisheries research and management projects. Currently, Ms. Patterson supervises the Marine/Anadromous, Fisheries Statistics, Recreational Fisheries, and

Invertebrate Fisheries Units of the Marine Fisheries Division. Her duties include planning, coordinating, and supervising various fisheries dependent and fisheries independent programs. Additionally, she also represents the State of NH on a variety of marine interstate fisheries management boards, fisheries plan development or review teams, and technical committees within the New England Management Council and Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. She also represents the NH Fish and Game Department on addressing environmental concerns within the state and adjoining states.



Gary Powers

Deputy Legal Counsel, R.I. Department of Environmental Management;
Legal Counsel Derelict and Abandoned Vessel and Obstruction Removal
Commission

Gary Powers has been the Deputy Chief Legal Counsel with the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management since 1991. He holds a J.D. from Northeastern University School of Law and an A.B. from Brown University in Political Science/Economics.



Brock Callen

Executive Director
Sail Martha's Vineyard

After a twenty year career as a finance executive and the development of two patented software underwriting templates for the insurance industry, Mr. Callen chose to change course and pursue his two greatest passions, teaching children and using the oceans as his medium. For the last twenty-four years he has worked with Sail Martha's Vineyard, a public access educational organization. As its Executive Director since 2008, he has overseen the non-profit's growth to where it serves over 1,100 children and adults each year both on the water

and in the classroom with an increasing emphasis on sustainability and environmental responsibility





Dave McLaughlin

Executive Director & Co-Founder
Clean Ocean Access

Dave McLaughlin is the Co-founder of Clean Ocean Access and is working on transforming the organization into a sustainable non-profit such that the mission lasts forever. He received his BS and MS in Applied Mathematics from the Florida Institute of Technology with a concentration in atmospheric science and physical oceanography. Before this journey, Mr. McLaughlin had a career in Information Technology as an enterprise architect at Hasbro Toy Company.



Dr. Katharine Owens

Associate Professor and Director
Environmental Studies Program
University of Hartford

Dr. Katharine Owens is an Associate Professor in the department of Politics, Economics, and International Studies and Director of the Environmental Studies program at the University of Hartford in Connecticut. She teaches courses in American government, research methods, public policy, and environmental policy including courses on marine debris and sustainable food systems.

Dr. Owens researches the way policy is implemented and the impact it has in the world. Past projects have measured the effect of campus sustainability initiatives, evaluated how people make decisions about wetland resources, and examined collaboration of stakeholders in sustainability projects abroad. Currently, she examines the impact of active teaching methods on student learning. She is also fascinated by the way we use visual media to express political ideas.



Dennis Nixon

Director and Professor
Rhode Island Sea Grant
University of Rhode Island

Professor of Marine Affairs Dennis Nixon has served as the Director of the Rhode Island Sea Grant Program since July 2013. In that role, he leads a multi-million dollar research and education program devoted to using scientific knowledge to improve the management of Rhode Island's coastal waters. Prior to that, he served for four years as the Associate Dean for Research and Administration at the Graduate School of Oceanography at the University of Rhode Island, where he was responsible for the administration of the 200+ acre campus, pier, and the 185' Research Vessel *Endeavor*. Professor Nixon served

the previous 8 years as the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at the College of the Environment and Life Sciences, also at the University of Rhode Island. He has been a faculty member at the University of Rhode Island



for the past 39 years, teaching courses in the area of marine and coastal law. He is particularly proud of the thousands of former students now working in marine industries, government, law and science.

A marine lawyer by training, he is a member of the Maritime Law Association of the United States and the Rhode Island Bar. He is the Secretary and General Counsel for the Point Club, a fishing vessel insurance cooperative he helped found over 20 years ago. Professor Nixon is one of the three founders of the International Marina Institute, which provides educational programs and certification for professionals in the marine industry around the world. Under a grant from the National Science Foundation, he is also the legal advisor and risk manager for the University National Oceanographic Laboratory System, and has been providing advice to all of the US academic research vessel fleet for the past 28 years. He has lectured on marine law topics in 27 states and 26 countries on 6 continents. He is the author of over 50 articles and the casebook *Marine and Coastal Law*, first published in 1994 and released in a second edition in 2010.

Professor Nixon earned his Bachelor's degree in history at Xavier University, his law degree at the University of Cincinnati, a Master of Marine Affairs at the University of Rhode Island, a Certificate on International Institutions at the University of Geneva, and a Certificate in Ocean Law from Harvard Law School. He is an avid sailor on vessels of all sizes, and races his own boat weekly on Narragansett Bay.



Kevin Cute

Marine Resources Specialist

Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council

Kevin R. Cute has a B.A. in Marine Biology from Humboldt State University and an M.A. in Marine Affairs from the University of Rhode Island. Mr. Cute has worked for the Coastal Resources Management Council for 17 years in the Executive and Policy Section. His work focuses on public access, harbor management, aquatic invasive species and numerous other coastal resource management issues as they arise. Mr. Cute developed the State of Rhode Island's Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan in partnership with the University of Rhode Island, the Department of Environmental Management,

and the Rhode Island Natural History Survey. He co-chairs the RI Aquatic Invasive Species Working Group and is responsible for administering and implementing several aquatic invasive species monitoring projects throughout the state's coastal waters and shoreline habitats.



Erin Bryant, Esq., M.M.A., M.S.Ed.

Sea Education Association, SEA Semester

Woods Hole, Massachusetts

Assistant Professor of Ocean and Coastal Policy

Erin Bryant teaches ocean science and public policy and sustainable ocean conservation and management at *SEA Semester*, the leader in field-based environmental study-abroad at sea. Her work focuses on understanding: behaviors that produce and prevent marine debris; resilience and sustainable practices in coastal areas and small islands; human uses of ocean space, for the purpose of future planning; perceptions of climate change research and



other society-relevant science and ocean policy; and the roles scientists can take in policy-making. Ms. Bryant's work is producing college graduates who are ready to be ocean scientists and ocean stewards and communicate their scientific findings and related policy recommendations to a wide audience.

Ms. Bryant has an undergraduate degree in Geology from Bryn Mawr College, a master's degree in Education from Simmons College, a Master of Marine Affairs degree from the University of Rhode Island, and a Juris Doctor degree from Roger Williams University School of Law. She lives in Falmouth, Massachusetts, with her husband and two children.



James Rhodes
Program Director
UPSTREAM Policy Institute

Jamie Rhodes began with UPSTREAM in September 2015. A 2012 graduate of Roger Williams University School of Law, he has been active in numerous environmental campaigns since coming to Rhode Island in 2007. Jamie began with Clean Water Action in 2006, most recently as their Rhode Island State Director from 2011-2014. Also as a practicing attorney with his own law practice in Warwick, RI with a focus on small business and non-profit startups.

He lives in Warwick, Rhode Island with wife, Jessica and two kids, Nathan and Lucy. If you cannot find him in his home office, his is probably out kayaking, playing ultimate Frisbee, or, perhaps just taking the kids for a wagon ride around Rocky Point Park.



Mike Roylos
Founder, UrbanCare, LLC

The Sidewalk Buttler cigarette recycling program is the brainchild of local businessman Mike Roylos who was tired of seeing cigarette butts on the ground outside his local restaurant in Portland, Maine.

Instead of whining about a problem, he created a solution in his free time. What emerged was the Sidewalk Buttler, the world's first "smart receptacle" for tobacco waste. Collected butts are not only 100% recycled, but all units have the ability to actually track waste disposal totals. Since the installation of the first one in Portland in 2013, the Sidewalk Buttler cigarette recycling program has kept more than 400,000 butts off the streets and prevented over 1.6 billion toxins from getting into our soil and water.

